

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE March 9, 2015

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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

## Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas honors a living legend in LA's Korean-American community by declaring Susan Ahn Cuddy Day

**WHEN:** 9:30 AM, Tuesday, March 10, 2015

WHAT: Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas will declare March 10, 2015, as

Susan Ahn Cuddy Day throughout Los Angeles County, in honor of a

Korean American pioneer and patriot's exceptional public service.

Susan Ahn Cuddy was born 100 years ago to the first married couple from Korea to immigrate to the United States.

Ms. Cuddy became the first Asian American woman to join the ranks of the United States military, training naval pilots in air combat tactics during World War II as the US Navy's first female gunnery officer. She went on to work for the National Security Agency, supervising more than 300 scholars and experts on the U.S.S.R. during the Cold War.

While embracing her adoptive country, Ms. Cuddy never forgot her Korean heritage and carried on her father's legacy of creating a hub for Los Angeles' fledgling Korean American community, including helping to manage the family-owned Phil Ahn's Moongate restaurant, which became a landmark in Panorama City.

Ms. Cuddy's father, Dosan Ahn Chang Ho, is considered a national hero in South Korea because he fought for independence against Japanese imperial rule. In Los Angeles, he established an academy to teach young Korean Americans to think and lead democratically.

Ms. Cuddy's brother, Phil Ahn, also raised the profile of Los Angeles' Korean American community, becoming the first actor of Asian heritage to receive a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

WHO: Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas

Susan Ahn Cuddy

WHERE: Los Angeles County Hall of Administration

500 W. Temple St. Los Angeles, CA 90012

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